

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with L. Rhys Lawson, Ph.D.(Reg No. 57,869) on 05/07/2009.

### **AMEND CLAIM 32 AS FOLLOWS:**

32. (Currently Amended) A measuring device, comprising a device housing and a plug-in measuring-device module, the device housing comprising a front side, a rear side, and an interior, wherein the front side of the device housing comprises an integrated display device affixed thereon, and the interior of the device housing is accessible from openings in the rear side of the device housing sized and configured to accept one or more plug-in measuring-device modules and, an aperture adjacent the integrated display device on the front side of the device housing, sized and configured to pass a first electrical connection formed on the plug-in measuring-device module; wherein the plug-in measuring-device module is inserted into the device housing from the rear side and connected by a plug-and-socket panel to the integrated display device, the plug-in measuring-device module comprising a body, a front side comprising a first electrical connection projecting from the body, and a rear side comprising a

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second electrical connection, wherein the first electrical connection and the second electrical connection are data input/output connections; and wherein the first electrical connection on the plug-in measuring-device module projects through the aperture on the front side of the device housing to provide a measuring device with data input/output connections to the plug-in measuring-device module accessible from the front side of the device housing and the rear side of the device housing.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

**Claims 20-30 and 32 are allowable.**

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

In response to remarks and claim amendments made in Applicants' Amendment submitted 04/14/2009, as well as, an Interview with Applicants' Representative, the Summary attached herewith, and, upon conclusion of a comprehensive search of the pertinent prior art, the Office indicates that the claims, as amended, are allowable.

Regarding independent claim 32, patentability exists, at least in part, with the claimed features of an integrated display device affixed thereon, and the interior of the device housing is accessible from openings in the rear side of the device housing sized and configured to accept one or more plug-in measuring-device modules and, an aperture adjacent the integrated display device on the front side of the device housing, sized and configured to pass a first electrical connection formed on the plug-in measuring-device module; wherein the first electrical connection on the plug-in measuring-device module

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projects through the aperture on the front side of the device housing to provide a measuring device with data input/output connections to the plug-in measuring-device module accessible from the front side of the device housing and the rear side of the device housing.

The pertinent prior art, when taken alone, or, in part, cannot be reasonably construed as teaching or suggesting all of the elements of the claimed invention as arranged, disposed, or provided in the manner as claimed by the Applicants.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DAMEON E. LEVI whose telephone number is (571)272-2105. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Thurs. (9:00 - 5:00) IFP, Fridays Telework.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dean Reichard can be reached on (571) 272-1984. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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